

CITY NEWS

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The new perspective on city living

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McGreevey unveils bold housing plan

ATLANTIC CITY — Governor James E. McGreevey recently unveiled plans for a new housing initiative designed to help 20,000 working families purchase homes over the next four years.

"We are committed to providing the mortar and bricks to make a difference," McGreevey said during his keynote address to some 1,500 developers, planners, builders and community organizations attending the Governor James E. McGreevey Conference on Housing and Community Development at the Atlantic City Convention Center.

The Governor said New Jersey can create housing opportunities that build strong communities by encouraging partnerships that combine and leverage public and private funds, as well as by streamlining and readjusting government programs.

McGreevey announced four new initiatives that will help New Jersey meet its housing goal without adding any extra burdens on taxpayers:

- A new Housing Opportunity Fund will pool \$30 million of HMFA and DCA dollars to create a single multi-purpose resource for the production and preservation of housing. The change also makes it more efficient for developers to access government funding. It will use \$270 million in State resources over four years to attract an additional \$2.2 billion to invest in New Jersey housing.

- A new Housing Works program will provide employer-assisted housing by involving employers in the planning of residential development near jobs. This initiative will establish partnerships between large private employers and municipalities to address housing problems that may impede economic growth. A State investment of \$6 million from HMFA funding, and \$6 million from the Balanced Housing Program will provide seed money to be matched with \$12 million of employer contributions.

See HOUSING, page 7

Brantley Bros. creates global moving legacy

By M. Scheryl Gant

The physical shock of switching repeatedly from the cold freezer in the slaughterhouse where he worked, into the outside heat began to take a physical toll on Malachia Brantley, Sr. sometime around late 1963, but the money was good and he and his wife Kathryn had begun their young family. The couple had moved to Newark in 1958 and opportunities for African Americans were limited to jobs requiring strenuous physical labor.

By 1965, Brantley had developed asthma and was forced to seek another means of earning a living. He joined a fledgling household moving partnership lead by Jim Williams in 1966.

The newly formed team was willing, but their market was mainly poor Newark residents and soon the moving truck was sitting idle and gathering parking tickets more than hauling furniture. One day, by

divine intervention, Williams, who owned the truck decided to cut his losses and sell it. The 'good riddance' sale made in 1966 cost Brantley \$1.00 and put him on the road to a spot on the Black Enterprise 100 list twice, and owning a multi-million dollar enterprise with global capacity.

The following year, 1967, brother Thomas, came home from the U.S. Army and Brantley Brothers Moving and Storage was formed (Thomas relinquished his co-ownership, but still works for the company). It was also the year that Newark erupted in a black civil rebellion that sent many businesses of all sizes fleeing from the city.

Brantley Brothers Moving and Storage was congratulated



Photo by O. 'Gio' Petteway

by the City of Newark recently for their vision to build a foundation of economic opportunity and neighborhood stabilization 35 years ago in a community where others saw only ashes and ruin.

"In the Bible when

Nehemiah wanted to build Jerusalem he had a vision," East Ward Councilman Augusto Amador told the audience. "He said let us rise up and let us build. Malachia Brantley

See BRANTLEY, page 7

Newark gets federal Defense business outreach

The Department of Defense makes Newark its first stop on business outreach tour

NEWARK — Phacil Inc. and the Department of Defense (DOD) launched the Department of Defense HUBZone Conference series at The New Jersey Institute of Technology in Newark recently. The HUBZone program is designed to help inner city companies compete effectively in the DOD procurement process.

"We were delighted when Mr. Frank Ramos, the Director of the Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business for the Department of Defense, asked us to assist them in putting on this conference," said Rafael Collado, Chairman and CEO of Phacil Inc., which is headquartered in Newark. The event attracted a number of high level official and business executives from the local, state and national levels and was viewed by New Jersey representatives as an important indicator of Newark's potential for economic development.

The conference was wel-



The recent Department of Defense HUBZone Conference attendees included (left to right): Sascha Mornell, president of Phacil; Dr. Robert Altenkirch, president of NJIT; U.S. Congressman Donald M. Payne; Rafael Collado, CEO of Phacil; Newark Mayor Sharpe James, and Dr. William D. Watley, CEO & Secretary of the New Jersey Commerce & Economic Growth Commission.

combed by Dr. William D. Watley, CEO and Secretary of the state Commerce and Growth Commission.

"I like HUBZone because, like Empowerment Zones and

New Markets and Brownfields programs, HUBZone brings together government and business to serve a community's public interest - especially communities where the econo-

my needs a special boost." Said Watley who characterized the HUBZone program as being underutilized. "But the fact that we're here to do something about that gives me hope and helps me counter that sense of frustration."

"The HUBZone program is a fantastic way for the government and private industry to work together to invest in the growth of jobs and training in socio-economically developing areas, such as Newark," said Congressman Donald Payne, representative for Newark, New Jersey. "It's great to see the Department of Defense working with local businesses, such as Phacil, to host a conference to further the goals of investing in our communities."

"Newark's location, its talented and diverse workforce, and its superior transportation system that is the best in the tri-state area make the City very attractive for businesses, both large and small," Sharpe James, the Mayor of Newark echoed the sentiments Watley

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REQUEST FOR INTEREST**NOTICE TO DISADVANTAGED BUSINESS ENTERPRISES (DBE) INCLUDING MINORITY AND WOMEN BUSINESSES**

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- Clerical

All suppliers who are interested should send a letter of interest along with an information packet (3 sets) containing:

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- List of customers with phone numbers and contact individual.
- Copy of SEPTA's DBE certification.

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Phone: 212-207-0666 Fax: 212-207-0845
E-mail: diana.turek@sumitomocorp.co.jp

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Six Weeks Post-Transplant — Kidney donor Sebastian Placencia (2nd from r) & recipient Civica Perez (2nd from l) visit the Renal Transplant Ctr. at Beth Israel with Sadanand Palekar, M.D., Clinical Dir. Transplant, & Carmen Flores, R.N., Transplant Coordinator.

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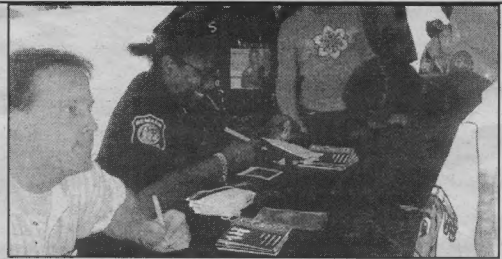


Photo I.D. Fair — Steve Bishop, Rent-A-Center market manager in Newark and Officer Vanessa Johnson, Newark Police Department (left to right), collect vital safety information from children for KidCare identification booklets.



Meet the Seniors — Bergen County Freeholder Chairman Anthony J. Cassano campaigned at a recent County of Bergen annual senior picnic, where he met Clarice Moses Rolleson of Hackensack. Mrs. Moses was one of 3,000 seniors from throughout the county who attended the event. The County provided boxed lunches and entertainment. The seniors also enjoyed browsing and shopping for treasures at the flea market. Cassano has been a Freeholder since 1990. He is a local realtor by profession.



WTC Memorial — Milton Harrison, President & CEO of the Newark YMWCA, Rich Braun, artist, Frank Cioppettini, Jr. Chairman of the Newark YMWCA (left to right) pose in front of Twin Towers memorial painting.

MAYOR CHRIS BOLLWAGE

and Dan Sullivan of the Elizabeth Development Company

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Briefs

WORLD RACISM SUMMIT MEETS IN BARBADOS

The United Nations World Conference Against Racism will hold a follow-up meeting in Bridgetown, Barbados, to prioritize many of the significant challenges faced by Black people.

Actor and human rights activist Danny Glover will be the honorary chairperson at the summit, which set for Oct. 2-6 at Sherbourne Conference Centre. Strategies and solutions will be sought in 12 areas: Critical programs for youth; the HIV and health care crisis; Reparations strategies; Educational initiatives; Gender issues for Black men and Black women; Political and legal remedies and the prison industrial complex; The adverse impact of globalization; The role of the media; The role of religion, culture and the arts; Oversight mechanisms to ensure the implementation of the U.N. Program of Action; and The international labor movement.

Programs seek to ease new homebuyers' costs

Public lacks awareness and under-utilizes down payment assistance

CUMMING, GA., — At a time when housing starts have declined for three consecutive months and the economy teeters at the brink of a double dip recession, an underutilized pool of funds is available that could give minority and first-time home buyers a boost. Unfortunately, many realtors, home builders and mortgage lenders are unaware that this money is available to help families and boost the economy, too.

"Some significant dollars are available from programs operated by non-profit organizations whose mission is to 'gift' down payment cash to qualifying home buyers," said Fred C. Proctor, Jr., President, Family Home Providers, a Cumming, Georgia-based down payment assistance group. "Unfortunately, many families, realtors and home builders don't know about these opportunities. Yet, getting information about our program and others like it is as easy as going to the Internet."

Under these programs, families with steady employment, but the inability to save the required up front cash, can literally receive their down payment and even closing costs as

"Some significant dollars are available from programs operated by non-profit organizations whose mission is to 'gift' down payment cash to qualifying home buyers."

— Fred C. Proctor, Jr.

a "gift" from the participating non-profit group.

Unlike zero down payment mortgages that finance the cost of a home plus closing costs, homeowners using down payment assistance programs can enter their first home with equity. Since the new law was enacted, dozens of charities like Family Home Providers have helped placed thousands of families in their first homes.

Under federal law, down payment gifting programs must be operated by a non-profit, 501(c)3 affordable housing organization working under guidelines issued by the IRS and Federal Housing Administration. Anyone qualifying for an FHA loan is potentially eligible for this kind of

down payment assistance.

While each nonprofit has differing procedures, typically the programs are very simple. After a buyer is approved, the charity donates the down payment with no requirements to pay it back - ever.

The monies for the down payment come from donations received by the non-profits and from fees paid by sellers to enroll their homes in the program. The typical down payment gift is between two and five percent of the home's final contract sales price.

The approach is obviously working. A Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis study recently found that direct cash payments and down payment assistance are much more beneficial to first time homebuyers than interest rate buy down programs like those operated by Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac or zero down payment plans that tack the up front costs into the mortgage.

This study shows that zero payment programs increase the number of renters who can become homeowners by 2.5 percent. However, a cash payment of around \$5,000 has the largest effect on homeownership by increasing the percent-

age of renters who can own a home by up to 13 percent for African-American renters and seven percent for Hispanic renters. A cash payment of \$10,000 doubles that percentage.

Meanwhile, a University of Georgia study found that a family with annual incomes as low as \$30,000 can be successful homeowners when down payment assistance is provided. When conceived, the goal of down payment assistance programs was to reach these underserved borrowers and communities, help revitalize neighborhoods of single-family homes, and promote home ownership, particularly among minority families.

Over the past two years, estimates have shown that as much as \$27 billion in home sales have been generated through down payment assistance programs.

"Down payment money is available to boost the economy, while giving deserving families their first shot at the American dream of homeownership," Proctor said.

For more information about Family Home Providers call 770-887-4578 or go to the Internet at www.familyhomeproviders.org.



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Arena can become a tax cut catalyst

Newark City Council members, Essex County freeholders and the state of New Jersey legislators are poised on the brink of making a decision based on either good or bad economic reasoning, as plans to locate a sports and entertainment arena in Newark teeter like a Sacajawea Dollar before falling onto the heads or tails side.

The issue, and we believe it to be a serious one, hinges on making the best decision for Newark, the County and the State in terms of today's economic framework: Which is best - to invest in the economic potential of the arena or to spend the money on a tax cut, or schools? While schools and tax cuts are without a doubt worthwhile expenditures, we do not believe they are comparable to the long term, overall economic benefit that a careful planned arena would net.

It is our opinion that those who espouse populist anti-arena positions are basing their opposition on old economic principals, rather than looking at successful urban city sports facility models such as Oriole Park-Camden Yards in Baltimore, the Giants Stadium in San Francisco, and Market Square Arena in downtown Indianapolis. These cities created sports/hospitality/entertainment facilities that resulted in thousands of jobs for residents within commuting distance, and pumped billions into the local, county and state coffers. This type of economic infusion creates money for schools, and tax breaks over a long-term, ongoing basis, and provides more residents with substantially more job opportunities, and better municipal services.

We encourage the Newark City Council members to move beyond viewing the arena as detracting from schools or preventing a one time opportunity to give back to the taxpayers, and take a courageous leadership role in supporting the arena. The economics of professional sports facilities is driven by factors including the sale of broadcasting, product licensing to national firms, attracting outside visitors, and selling luxury viewing boxes. In Newark these amenities will attract developers who will build luxury suite hotels, fancy restaurants, night clubs and generate more revenues for the Newark Museum, NJPAC, Symphony Hall and other cultural outlets, and perhaps even convention capacity.

The arena - if done properly - would coalesce the existing positives, including Newark Liberty International Airport, NJIT, Rutgers, UMDNJ, NJPAC, Seton Hall Law School, Penn Station, the highway network and the other City entities into an international family orientate destination. This generates billions of dollars any way you spin it, and would represent progress for a state that does not truly have sufficient attractions for visitors, outside of Atlantic City and Great Adventure.

We know the decision is a difficult one, especially for those council members who identify with the bread and butter needs that their constituents face in their daily struggle to survive. On the surface it may seem like folly to spend money on sports and entertainment when there are so many other pressing needs.

This is precisely why we encourage the City Council to support the arena development project. This will lay the foundation for Newark to reclaim her glory as the economic engine of the state, and provide jobs that meet the bread and butter needs of not only residents, but also their families for years to come.

NJ's role in the death penalty debate

By Patrick Mulvaney

The spotlight has turned to New Jersey in the national death penalty debate, as two bills in the state legislature — S-1112 in the senate and A-1913 in the assembly — could make a monumental impact on capital punishment cases across the country. These identical bills call for a special commission to evaluate the critical issues surrounding New Jersey's death penalty: the possibility of a wrongful conviction, the fairness of its application, and the cost of its imposition. The legislation also includes a moratorium on executions while the state conducts its study.

State legislatures in the United States have catalyzed significant death penalty action this year, most notably on the issue of executing mentally retarded people. The Supreme Court's Atkins decision - banning such executions - resulted in large part from legislative initiatives at the state level. The critical role state lawmakers played in the Atkins ruling set a precedent for future death penalty issues, making Trenton

a gateway to the national debate.

In 2000, Governor George Ryan of Illinois called for a moratorium after his state released 13 inmates from death row because of wrongful convictions. This year, Maryland also imposed a moratorium, as new DNA evidence cast doubt on several death penalty cases. Many more states are considering halting executions as well; however, few are willing to take the initiative. New Jersey, with significant support for a moratorium in the state legislature, can strongly influence the entire nation by passing these bills.

Advocates for the moratorium argue that socio-economic discrimination plagues the sentencing process. Few defendants with private attorneys find themselves on death row, and statistics show a long history of racial bias in sentencing decisions. This aspect of the debate is especially important in New Jersey - a state with vast social diversity.

Some of New Jersey's taxpayers have reservations about the financial side of capital punishment (while others still

believe the common myth that life sentences are more expensive). Studies indicate that in New Jersey, the death penalty costs four times more than a life sentence - a difference of over \$20 million per year for the state. The current budget crisis makes the moratorium legislation significantly more likely to pass in Trenton.

Although New Jersey has not executed anyone since reinstating the death penalty in 1982, several inmates are running out of appeals. The capital punishment issue, one way or another, will confront Governor McGreevey and the state legislature in the coming months. In May, an Eagleton Poll reported that when life without parole is an option, 66% of New Jerseyans, including death penalty proponents, support a moratorium and study. Either way, New Jersey's actions will very likely dictate the decisions of many other states, as well as, quite possibly, the entire country.

Patrick Mulvaney, a native of New Jersey, is now the Assistant Communications Director at the National Coalition to Abolish the

Social Security gains black support

Jesse Jackson once famously commented that capitalism without the capital is just another "ism." This makes it all the more frustrating that so many old school African-American leaders, like Jackson, oppose efforts to create personal savings accounts within the Social Security system. Their solution to the lack of capital in black communities is to redistribute it from other communities. Such an approach not only is doomed to failure, it increases racial tensions in America while ignoring the root cause of the problem.

The legitimate concern of many regarding the wealth gap between blacks and whites in America has too often focused on the causes of poverty. But poverty is the natural state of man. The more interesting approach is to inquire into the creation of wealth. And here the evidence is unambiguous. Savings and investment are the surest means of accumulating wealth. The problem for many blacks is that low incomes don't leave much opportunity to save. Some black leaders, such as Star Parker of the Coalition for Urban Renewal and Education (CURE), believe that even as incomes of African-Americans begin to approach parity with the rest of the nation, there still exists a culture of spending rather than saving in the black community.

Whatever the cause, the lack of accumulated wealth among African-Americans is cause for concern. According to new Census Bureau figures, in the period from 1967 through 1997 household incomes in black families grew 72 percent faster than white household incomes - albeit from a lower base - approaching 80 percent of white incomes. Yet the median black family held only \$3,060 in financial assets in 1998. That is less than one-tenth the financial assets held by the median white family.

Which is where Social Security privatization comes in. If allowed to invest their payroll taxes in real assets, a couple earning the minimum wage their entire working lives would accumulate assets in their accounts totaling more than \$250,000 in current dollars. And that is using interest assumptions well below the historic rate of return on equities. It was Albert Einstein who said that compound interest is the strongest force in the universe. He wasn't kidding.

It is important to note, as well, that Social Security privatization need not mean investing in stock mutual funds. Although stocks provide the best return over the long haul, some people simply are not comfortable with investments that can decline in value over the short term. For them the

options of money market funds, bond funds, mixed funds, or even insurance products can provide a much higher level of retirement income than Social Security only promises, but probably will not be able to meet, due to its huge unfunded liability.

And the really exciting thing about private Social Security accounts from the standpoint of African-Americans is that they will have a legal right to assets they own and no politician may take from them.

Under a privatized system of personal accounts, Americans would be able to leave their accumulated funds to their loved ones. Now, if your children are grown when you pass away, the money simply disappears. This is particularly unfair to African-Americans, who have a greater need for intergenerational wealth transfer and have a shorter life expectancy. As Gwendolyn King, a black member of the President's Commission to Strengthen Social Security, says "the key to a more prosperous black community lies in making it possible to build wealth that can be passed from generation to generation."

Edward H. Crane is president and CEO of the Cato Institute, www.cato.org.

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Briefs

ANTI-PREDATORY LENDING LAWS SUPPORTERS MEET

TRENTON — The New Jersey Citizen Action, AARP, and a several other organizations held a press conference in the State House Annex to announce recent studies that indicate strong anti-predatory lending legislation won't cut off access to fair loans and credit. According to studies, the issue of predatory lending is as serious a problem in New Jersey as it is in North Carolina, which was the first state in the country to pass anti-predatory lending legislation in 1999. New Jersey consumer groups are advocating for similar strong anti-predatory lending legislation, and are supporters of S-1200, "The Home Loan Protection Act," sponsored by U.S. Senators Barbara Buono and Leonard Lance.

TRENTON COMPANY JOINS INSURANCE COALITION

NEWARK — First Trenton Indemnity recently joined the Coalition for Auto Insurance Competition, signaling growing concern among insurers, consumers and businesses about the continued contraction of New Jersey's auto insurance market.

The Coalition is calling for the enactment of New Jersey Auto Insurance Competition and Choice Act (A-2625), which calls for reforms to attract more auto insurers to New Jersey, spurring competition and increasing consumer choice. The latest figures show New Jersey has more than a third fewer than neighboring New York and Pennsylvania. More than twenty auto insurance companies have left New Jersey in the past ten years. A-2625 aims to reverse this trend by providing for rate setting, underwriting and other regulatory improvements.

PRUDENTIAL CITED BY AARP AS GREAT EMPLOYER

NEWARK — Prudential Financial, Inc. for the second consecutive year was named a 2002 AARP Exemplary Company for Workers 50 and Over. The employers were recognized by AARP and honored for their innovative practices toward mature workers. AARP's Modern Maturity magazine will feature the story in its November - December issue.

Regional business talk comes to Newark

NEWARK — The Regional Business Partnership (RBP) has announced its annual economic outlook which will be held the morning of October 22 in Newark. The theme for the report is "The Millennium Downturn: Prospects for a Rebound in the New Economy."

The annual event will focus on the national, state and regional economy and prospects and will feature the views of Stuart G. Hoffman, Senior Vice President and Chief Economics of PNC Financial Service Group whose topic is Recovery Roller Coaster on Track: No Double Dip Ahead.

Rae D. Rosen, Senior Economist at the Federal Reserve Bank of New York and James W. Hughes, Dean of the Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy, at Rutgers University.

Dr. Hughes said in the August issue of the Rutgers-Sitar Report that "New Jersey ended the second quarter of 2002 on a positive note. In June, employment increased for the first time since January 2002. Although the gain amounted to only 1,000 jobs, it stood as a positive shift from the pattern of recently declines." The report goes on to say that the state lost 25,500 jobs during the period of June 2001 and June 2002, and "New Jersey's economic performance in the first half of 2002, generally mirrored that of the nation."

The RBP meeting will be held at the Newark Club. For more information contact Barbara E. Kauffman, Executive Vice President at 973-242-4219, or go to www.rbp.org.

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NEW JERSEY TRANSIT CORPORATION (NJ TRANSIT) FISCAL YEAR 2003 REQUEST FOR FEDERAL FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

UNDER THE TRANSPORTATION EQUITY ACT FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

The New Jersey Transit Corporation (NJ TRANSIT), under provisions of the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21), gives notice of its intent to apply for \$189.46 million under 49 U.S.C. Section 5307 for operating and capital assistance, \$24.77 million for capital projects under Section 5309m \$2.50 million under Section 5310 for transportation services for senior citizens and persons with disabilities, \$2.30 million under Section 5311 for transportation in rural areas, and \$3.00 million for the Job Access and Reverse Commute Program. It is also NJ TRANSIT's intent to apply for \$65.00 million of Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program funds and \$4.00 million under other programs authorized by TEA-21.

Federal operating funds will be matched as required with funds provided by the State of New Jersey and local recipients in conformance with Federal and State guidelines. NJ TRANSIT intends to provide the non-Federal share of capital projects through credit for toll revenues and State funds committed to Urban Core projects as allowed by TEA-21. The Fiscal Year 2003 Federal program is described below.

Proposed Section 5307 Formula Operating and Capital Program (In Millions of Dollars)

Project	Federal
Operating Assistance	0.46
Rail Preventive Maintenance	75.83
Bus Preventive Maintenance	96.15
Building Capital Leases	9.15
Bergen Tunnel Rehabilitation	1.67
Rail Car Overhaul	1.23
Bus Overhaul	4.32
Bus Purchase	0.65
Transit Enhancements	0.25
Total	189.71

Proposed Section 5309 Fixed Guideway Modernization Program (In Millions of Dollars)

Project	Federal
Bridge Rehabilitation/Replacement	13.90
Track Rehabilitation	14.00
Electric Traction Upgrade	1.50
Montville Yard Engineering/Design	2.00
Main/Bergen/Pascack Valley Lines Upgrade	16.35
Rail Rolling Stock Purchase	6.40
Rolling Stock Overhaul	17.78
Hoboken Terminal & Yard Rehabilitation	7.34
Rail Preventive Maintenance	17.22
Total	96.49

Proposed Section 5309 New Start and Bus Programs (In Millions of Dollars)

Project	Federal
Trenton Station Rehabilitation	7.42
South Amboy Intermodal Transportation Initiative	0.20
West Trenton Rail Line Passenger Service Restoration	1.98
Newark-Elizabeth Rail Link Construction	60.00
Newark Bus Improvements	3.96
Bergen Intermodal Improvements	2.32
Jetney Transit Buses	0.40
Hudson-Bergen Light Rail Transit System Construction	72.00
Total	148.28

Proposed Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program (In Millions of Dollars)

Project	Federal
Meadow Maintenance Complex Upgrade	7.36
Rail Rolling Stock Purchase	13.80
Bus Purchase	22.70
Light Rail Car Purchase	15.00
Community Shuttle Bus Program	2.72
Bus Overhaul and Emission Control	3.42
Total	65.00

Proposed Projects Under Other Sections of TEA-21 (Millions of Dollars)

	Federal
Lackawanna/Cut-Off Environmental Assessment	1.00
Newark Penn Station Improvements	2.00
Rail Station Improvements	1.00
Total	4.00

A. Property Acquisition/Environmental, Economic, and Social Aspects

Any property acquisition or relocation that may be required will be conducted in accordance with the appropriate provisions of the law and regulatory requirements. As appropriate, the social, economic, environmental, and relocation aspects of the projects will be investigated. If required under applicable laws and regulations, interim findings may be presented at a future public hearing and further public comment will be solicited. Prior to the implementation of any of the projects and to the extent required, NJ TRANSIT may prepare and Environmental Assessment or Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to Federal regulations. The availability of this document will be made known by publication in the same manner as this notice. NJ TRANSIT will adhere to all Federal statutes and regulations affecting properties eligible for or on the National Register of Historic Places.

B. Comprehensive Planning

NJ TRANSIT projects are developed in coordination with the following planning organizations: The North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority, which is the designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the Northeast New Jersey urbanized area; the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission, which is the designated MPO for Camden, Mercer, Burlington, and Gloucester counties; and the South Jersey Transportation Planning Organization, which is designated MPO for Cumberland, Salem, Atlantic, and Cape May counties. The MPOs are the forums for local decision-making concerning the proposed projects. The projects are developed in consultation with local elected officials, interested citizens, and providers of private bus services.

C. Private Enterprise Participation

Through the comprehensive planning process administered by the MPOs and ongoing communication with NJ TRANSIT's Office of Private Carrier Affairs, NJ TRANSIT continues to discuss with private carriers their participation in the capital program. In addition, NJ TRANSIT encourages, to the maximum extent possible, the participation of the private sector in the development and implementation of public transportation in the State of New Jersey.

D. Senior Citizens and Persons with Disabilities

Services to be provided will be consistent with NJ TRANSIT's program of reduced interstate and intrastate rail and bus fares for senior citizens and persons with disabilities. Every reasonable effort will be made to plan and design program elements involving facilities generally available to the public with careful consideration of the special needs of senior citizens and persons with disabilities.

E. Public Input

NJ TRANSIT invites public comments on the above projects and its performance. Written comments and/or requests for a public hearing may be sent to Frank J. Hopper, Assistant Executive Director, Procurement and Support Services, NJ TRANSIT, One Penn Plaza East, Newark, New Jersey 07105-2246 by October 14, 2002. Based on comments received in response to this notice and information made available, NJ TRANSIT may modify the above program before final submission to the Federal Transit Administration and will make a determination, pursuant to FTA regulations, as to whether a public hearing is in order. The above list of proposed projects will become the final list of projects unless notification is given in the same manner as this public notice.

George D. Warrington
Executive Director
New Jersey Transit Corporation

\$58.20

Congressman, Councilwoman urge support for organ donations

NEWARK — A thousand lives may be saved as the result of Newark residents who recently responded in force as the Drive for Life organ donation RV tour arrived on the steps of City Hall with a strong appeal for local participation.

Drive for Life, held during Minority Health Month, is sending the message that it is critical for African-Americans, Asian-Americans and Latinos to become organ donors. The message hit home, as 125 people signed up for the New Jersey Donor Registry in Newark. Those donors may ultimately save the lives of a thousand people, as each donor

can contribute up to eight organs.

"Organ donation saves lives," Congressman Donald Payne, told a crowd gathered on the steps of City Hall recently. Payne's message was dramatically underscored by the testimonials of Newark residents who have received life-saving organ transplants.

Newark City Councilwoman Mamie Bridgeforth also spoke at the event. Her remarks were very personal, as her husband received a liver transplant six years ago. "He regained his health and was able to walk his daughter down the aisle," she said, "that never would have



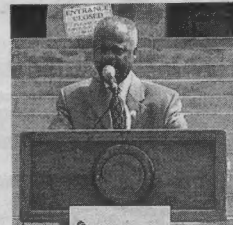
Mamie Bridgeforth, of the Newark City Council speaks. happened without the miracle of organ donation." There are currently over 2,300 people in New Jersey waiting to receive organ transplants.

The program also featured entertainment provided by Friends of the Heart, a gospel

choir that got the crowd moving to its joyful beat.

Drive for Life, which was kicked off on Monday, September 16 in Trenton, is presented by the New Jersey Organ and Tissue Sharing Network (The Sharing Network.) There have been seven other stops in the state, with each stop adding names to the statewide organ donor registry. To date, Drive for Life has recruited 300 people throughout the state.

The Sharing Network is using free lunchtime concerts and a 34-foot recreational vehicle to bring the message of the dire need for more organ



U.S. Rep. Donald Payne speaks donors to urban areas in Central and Northern New Jersey. This is particularly important since certain minority groups are more susceptible to diseases such as high blood pressure and diabetes that lead to the need for organ transplant.

Freeholder Proctor calls upon feds to make smallpox vaccine available to protect against possible biological terrorism attack

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Since September 11, 2001, although most Americans have tried to settle back into life "as usual," most remain aware that terrorism, including bioterrorism is a possibility. We are aware of threats and warnings of potential attacks, among these the threat of infecting the

U.S. with the smallpox virus. Several governments have been identified as nations that sponsor terrorism, expressed the desire to destroy this country and are suspected of having or gaining, access to the smallpox, virus and the willingness to utilize it as a weapon against the U.S.

The last natural case of smallpox occurred in 1977 so the World Health Organization declared the global eradication of smallpox and recommended that all countries cease vaccination. Due to concerns that the smallpox virus could be used as a weapon of bioterrorism, authorities are again looking at how to respond to the potential importation of the virus.

This country hasn't seen smallpox since 1949 and routine immunization was ended in 1972, leaving us all vulnerable if the virus was used as a weapon of mass destruction. The release of any amount of smallpox would result in a swift, widespread spread of the disease in our mobile society where daily about a million people travel to and from other countries and countless millions may go between, various parts of the country.

Vaccine preventable diseases like rubella (German Measles) once disabled and killed millions of American children. High childhood immunization coverage levels made these diseases uncommon.

Union County Freeholder Rick Proctor is calling for the federal government to take steps to improve their plans for protecting the U.S. population from the smallpox threat.

"The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommend Ring Vaccination to control potential biological weapons attacks," said Freeholder Proctor. "This is designed to keep a disease from spreading further but I do not believe that it can be effective. This way is based on isolation of confirmed and suspected cases with tracing, vaccination and close surveillance of contacts to those cases as well as vaccination of the household contacts of the contacts. Ring Vaccination is only effective when the outbreak occurs naturally and is in a highly immunized population that can benefit from a high degree of 'herd immunity.' The latter means a nonimmunized person receives protection from the disease because most of the population around them is immune and thus cannot pass it on to susceptible individuals. Public health resources could be overwhelmed quickly if this method fails to arrest the spread of the disease because ours is such a mobile society."

Smallpox could kill 30% of those infected, leaving the 70% who survive affected for life.

A safe, reliable, effective vaccine exists and enough can be made to protect every U.S. citizen. Experts, using rates from 1968 when the vaccine was used full strength, project that about 180 people nationwide would be at risk of dying from the immunization itself. Today's vaccine is most likely diluted about 5:1 (the actual percentage won't be known until the government releases it) which should lower the risk factor notably and treatment improvements should be more effective in treating adverse vaccine reactions.

"Vaccines present some risk," said freeholder Angel G. Estrada, "But without immunization there would be a far greater number of expected casualties from the first 600 smallpox cases in our country. We will use immunizations to neutralize the weapon of smallpox on behalf of the intended victims. Mass immunization would eliminate the U.S. as a valuable target of this destructive weapon."

"I step forward with the entire Union County Freeholder Board to state that the federal government 'must make' smallpox vaccine available to state and local public health authorities without delay as well as begin mass 'voluntary' immunizations of the entire population of the United States," added Proctor. "Unless there are mass immunizations we will have a vulnerable nation. The only individuals that I would not recommend receive these immunizations are those with compromised immune systems. It is essential to start taking steps soon to be proactive. The government's proposed Ring Vaccinations don't go into effect until a case has been diagnosed. That will be too late. This mass procedure should be done soon."

Among his credentials, Proctor, currently health officer to Rahway, Scotch Plains, Hillside and Winfield, was Director of the Department of Health and Human Services for Bloomfield for 18 years and served as Director of the Division of Health for Plainfield. He also authored and published articles on terrorism and weapons of mass destruction as they relate to public safety and belongs to the NJ Department of Health, Public Health Preparedness and Response for Bio-terrorism Task Force.

Since 1900, the average U.S. lifespan grew by more than 30 years, 25 due to public health advances. Vaccinations resulted in eliminating poliomyelitis in the Americas controlling measles, rubella, tetanus and other infectious diseases in the United States and other parts of the world and eradicating smallpox. The Freeholders insist the federal government release the vaccine to be used while there is time.

"I ask that everyone who agrees with me call or write their U.S. Senators and congressional representatives," added Proctor. "Tell them that you want the vaccines released to state and local health authorities, so that if the virus does come, we are not caught napping. We will have taken action."



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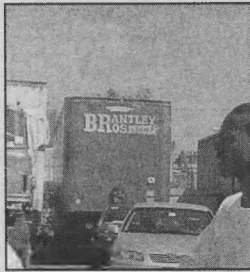
City News takes a look at the health issues on the minds of African Americans in a special section titled

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Brantley Bros.: A legacy of hard work, fortitude and faith



Members of the Malcolm X. Shabazz High marching band kicked off the celebration.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1
proved it can be done in Newark."

The occasion was the gathering of approximately 200 guests including educators, financial, judicial, and city representatives, employees, relatives and friends who came to celebrate the renaming of the intersection of East Bigelow Street and Elizabeth Avenue "Brantley Plaza."

Newark City Council President and South Ward Councilman Donald Bradley and Amador engaged in a friendly sparring match over whose ward the Brantley's are in. Mayor Sharpe James sent a proclamation and the City of Newark presented Mr. and Mrs. Brantley, Sr. with matching Rolex watches.

The celebration was held in the parking lot of their block long aqua facility, where the company relocated in 1982. The building was previously owned by Sears and Roebuck.

The now celebrated Brantley firm acquired a \$2,400 bank loan and moved into their first location, a small building on Frelinghuysen Avenue in 1971. The bank considered the loan "risky," according to Edwin Stevens, a former consultant with the Minority Enterprise Small Business



Malachia and Kathryn Brantley enjoy accolades from many admirers in the community.

Investment Companies (MES-BIC). Stevens was instrumental in convincing Rutgers University to provide a loan guaranty for the Brantley brothers — both inexperienced and one disabled — to launch their venture.

"Mr. Brantley is not afraid of getting his hands dirty ... 'If the truck is broken he will fix it... He will drive when we are short of a driver.'"

— Joseph Watson, accountant

Little did the Newark business community know that the loan was simply another chapter in a family legacy founded on hard work, Christian ethics and determination that began years earlier in Hampton County, South Carolina.

In the early family history, Tom Brantley, the grandfather of the two Newark brothers, became one of the wealthiest citizens of the county. A farmer, entrepreneur, and visionary, he saw a business opportunity in uprooting the oak tree stumps left on acres of land by timber companies.



Councilman Amador reads Brantley Plaza proclamation from the City of Newark.

"He used his back, a shovel and a mule," Malachia C. Brantley, Jr. said recently. Tom Brantley used his wealth to amass 90 acres of land. He gave two acres to a local church congregation, and kept the remaining parcels in his family. He became so wealthy he was the only African American male in Hampton County that the Caucasians respected enough not to call him "boy" (the common pronoun used in those days to deny adult status to black men). Instead, Tom Brantley was called "uncle" by whites throughout the community.

An astute businessman who believed in helping others with his wealth, the patriarch Brantley often acted as the unofficial banker in the black county.

"If he (Tom Brantley) loaned you \$100. He expected you to repay him \$100. Not \$101, and not \$99," great-grandson M.C. Brantley reflected recently.

In another chapter of Brantley family history, an unscrupulous white businessman grabbed the 88 acres of land acquired by the elder Tom Brantley when an illness resulted in him not paying the taxes on time. Despite efforts on the part of the Brantley's to pay the



Brantley's admire new signage in front of their 168 Elizabeth Avenue headquarters.

taxes and reclaim their land, the new owner swore they would never succeed.

When familial hardships forced the new owner to sell the ill begotten land in 1988, little did he suspect that the Brantley family had kept their eye on their legacy. A cousin living in the area saw the land sale notice in the newspaper and immediately called Malachia Brantley with the good news. Hours later he stepped off a plane in South Carolina with a check in hand, and proceeded to the auction where he repurchased the 88 acres his grandfather had intended for Brantley heirs. Malachia Brantley recently established the Tom Brantley Foundation in Hampton County, South Carolina to honor his grandfather.

At the anniversary celebration as one speaker after another took the podium, many of the personal vignettes showed that Malachia Brantley had patterned his life on many of the same values of hard work, giving back to the community and tithing in time and talents that his predecessors lived by.

Judge Betty Lester, the head of Our Children's Foundation, spoke of how Brantley had provided jobs and family stability to many of the so-called unemployed Newark residents,



The intersection of Elizabeth Avenue and East Bigelow Street is renamed Brantley Plaza.

including ex-inmates who he met while lecturing at Rahway State Prison. "Newark has lots of winners like Malachia Brantley," she said.

Joseph Watson, an employee who joined the firm as an accountant in 1981, described Brantley as someone who lead the employees by example.

"Mr. Brantley is not afraid of getting his hands dirty ..." said Watson. "If the truck is broken he will fix it. He will drive when we are short of a driver."

Seated to the right of Brantley during the ceremony was Kathryn Brantley, the mother of their six children, grandmother of 17 and great-grandmother of one. Daughter Thelma Brantley presented her mother, a beautiful, quiet, unpretentious woman, with a bouquet of flowers in appreciation for her role in making the day of honor possible for the family.

Mrs. Jan M. Edgenton Johnson, president and publisher of City News Publishing group spoke of her admiration of Brantley, then addressed the members of the Malcolm X. Shabazz High School Marching Band and other young people in the audience. "Today your are getting the opportunity to meet a living legend."

McGreevey unveils bold housing plan for NJ

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Housing rental stock continues to threaten the health and safety of New Jersey neighborhoods, and the Governor announced a commitment to a new amendment to the Neighborhood Revitalization Tax Credit program to allow community groups to reinvest in neighborhoods. Funding would increase from \$500,000 to \$1 million per project area and the regulatory process would be expedited.

The Governor also pledged to effectively leverage public housing investments by working with municipalities and counties to coordinate their federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME or Housing Production Investment Fund: working with developers and public housing authorities to maximize the impact of Federal HOPE VI funds and leveraging HOPE VI and CDBG dollars, also for maximum impact.

In a breakfast kick-off speech, Department of Community Affairs

Commissioner Susan Bass Levin outlined the Housing Mortgage Finance Agency and DCA's new approach for investing in communities.

"We must recognize that growth and development only benefit communities when it happens in the right place and in the right way," the Commissioner said.

"DCA and HMFA are committed to streamlining our review process, improving our financing options, increasing targeted investments, preserving affordable rental housing and increasing home ownership," Commissioner Levin said.

The Commissioner also announced new opportunities that would allow the working poor to use federal Section 8 housing certificates to buy their own home by defraying monthly mortgage costs.

"We don't simply want to sell families houses, we want to ensure that they are successful homeowners for the long run," she said.

The New Jersey State League of

Municipalities Executive Director Bill Dressell issued an immediate response to the Governor's housing proposal.

"There's an old proverb that says 'Even the longest of journeys begins with a single step.' That's my reaction to what the Governor announced today. This is a positive first step, and the League supports the concepts of a housing opportunity fund, the employee assistance program and the neighborhood revitalization tax credit. These are sound policies that dedicate real resources and real commitments into our communities and invest in our people."

But the League is also focused on larger housing issues that must be addressed. Right now, housing advocates argue that municipalities are not providing enough housing. The builders insist that there isn't enough construction in the state. Meanwhile, environmentalists argue that not enough is being done to curb development and sprawl. And they all point fingers at municipal officials, Dressell said.

HUBZone

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"In the last decade, Newark has become a major center for research and development, attracting many well established and start-up companies," James said. "A prime example of this is Phacil, Inc., which is headquartered in Newark and is helping to make local, small businesses aware of opportunities available to them under the HUBZone program, by joining with the U.S. Department of Defense in hosting this conference."

"The HUBZone program is a fantastic opportunity for private industry to hire and train employees to work on federal contracts," Rafael Collado, CEO of Phacil said. The program gives federal contracting preferences for qualified small businesses in economically depressed areas.



The Four Feathers: The fifth remake of exotic 19th century costume drama

Review by Kam Williams

What inspires a director to remake a movie that's already been remade a number of times before? My guess is that often the answer has to do with saving money on proven source material, because good scripts are hard to find. Plus, anybody can use a great work with an expired copyright absolutely for free. Why else do you think idea bereft Hollywood cranks out so many versions of Shakespeare's well-worn yarns? Lifted classics that come from the public domain don't cost a dime.

In the case of *The Four Feathers*, this film is based on the historical novel of the same name written by AEW Mason in 1902. His exotic adventure of romance was first adapted to the screen in 1915, and so resonated with audiences that different directors decided to re-do it in 1921, in 1929, in 1939 and in 1977. Now, it's Shekhar Kapur's turn and the veteran Indian filmmaker has hopes of capturing the imagination of another generation with the tried and true tale.

Kapur, who made his name in Bombay's Bollywood, first wooed Western audiences in 1998 with *Elizabeth*, which was nominated for seven Oscars, including Best Picture. But don't expect *The Four Feathers* to garner nearly as many accolades. Though this costume drama

offers an enchanting epic escape, its Anglophile, colonial overtones come off as a tad dated in these politically-corrected times, despite the director's almost admirable effort to rework it into something more socially palatable.

Set in England and the Sudan in 1875, the film stars Aussie Heath Ledger (*Monster's Ball*) as Harry Faversham, an Officer who resigns from the British Army rather than accompany his regiment to Africa to put down a rebellion of natives near Khartoum. Harry is automatically labeled a coward by his father, friends, even his fickle fiancée, Ethnee (Kate Hudson). And he is anonymously sent four white feathers, the subtle symbol used to call somebody a chicken in those days.

In short order, Harry is disowned by his dad, dumped by his girl for his best friend Jack (Wes Bentley) and loses his self-respect. Lucky for him, however, he gets a chance to redeem himself when he learns that his former regiments fort in North Africa is under siege. Harry patriotically puts aside his pacifist leanings to rescue his ex-friends and starts off on a desert caravan alone. But when he himself has trouble just handling the harsh elements, he is saved by Abou (Djimon Hounsou), a noble native who appears out of nowhere. These unlikely allies then

buddy-up and perform untold acts of heroism in service of the Queen's embattled Army.

This period piece does a good job at re-creating the pompous pageantry and elegant costuming associated with the Victorian Era. But the film fails in its storytelling, because it tastelessly avoids examining England's rationale for subjugating and exploiting the Dervishes, the region's indigenous peoples. Told almost from no perspective, this screen invasion seems oddly senseless and unjustified.

Quite frankly, I don't expect any further native-neutral remakes of classic cinematic celebrations of British colonial conquest like *Khartoum*, *Zulu* or *Gunga Din*. For imperialism is exposed as a shameful chapter in human history when the aborigines are no longer presented as uncivilized, wild-eyed savages all but begging for extermination. Nonetheless, *The Four Feathers* offers sufficient visual capture to remain recommended for its cinematography alone.

Rating:

Good (2 stars). Rated PG-13 for intense battle sequences, disturbing images and some sensuality.

The State Theatre presents country music legend — Kenny Rogers



NEW BRUNSWICK, NJ — Ready to share his favorites, Kenny Rogers, "The Gambler," will appear at the State Theatre, New Brunswick on Friday, October 18 at 8pm for an unforgettable performance. An American icon, there are few artists of Kenny's stature. In nearly five decades, Rogers has recorded 60 albums, which have sold over 105 million records worldwide.

As one of country music's biggest crossover successes, Kenny's numerous accolades include four Grammy Awards, 11 People's Choice Awards, 18 American Music Awards, eight Academy of Country Music Awards and five Country Music Association Awards. In addition, he was named "Favorite Singer of All Time" in a PM Magazine/USA Today poll in 1986, and in 1989 readers of People Magazine voted Rogers "Favorite Male Vocalist."

In 1990, Rogers was honored with the Horatio Alger Award, given to those who have distinguished themselves despite humble beginnings. Fall 2001 marked the release of Rogers' 60th album, *Live By Request*, the first live performance recording of his career. Televised live on A&E's *Live By Request*, the album features 17 of Rogers' greatest hits including two duets with Linda Davis and 13 number one songs.

In addition, Rogers' delights the audience by telling the little-known stories behind the songs. Also new on the shelves in fall 2001 was Rogers' newly reissued, enhanced CD, *The Gambler*. Rogers' popular "The Gambler" mega-hit recording spawned the longest running mini-series in the history of television in the United States, attracting over 100 million viewers nationwide. In 1999, Rogers returned to the top

of the charts with his back-to-back hit singles, "The Greatest," and his 22nd #1 hit, "Buy Me A Rose." Both songs captured the #1 slot on CMT's Top 12 Video Countdown and propelled Rogers' *She Rides Wild Horses* album to platinum status. The disc was the debut project from Rogers' Nashville-based record label, Dreamcatcher Records. Similarly, the follow up single, "Buy Me A Rose," a touching ballad about the little things in life that mean so much, garnered an emotional response from coast to coast.

Inspired by "Buy Me A Rose," the producers of CBS' *Touched By An Angel* built an entire episode around the song, and it was the second highest rated *Touched By An Angel* show of the season. Always rising to meet new artistic and personal challenges, Kenny embarked on yet another exciting endeavor starring in the off-Broadway 1998 theatrical production of *Christmas from the Heart* featuring the "Toy Shoppe." Based on an original story written by Rogers and Kelly Junkermann, the musical was presented by Hallmark Entertainment at the historic Beacon Theatre in New York City for a six-week holiday run.

The original music from the production, featuring 11 new songs co-written by Rogers, was released on Dreamcatcher Records. The album was the follow-up holiday release to Rogers' Number One gold album, *The Gift*, which was nominated for both a Dove Award and for Country Album of the Year by the Gospel Music Association in 1996. In the meantime, Rogers continues to take his music on the road. His "live" concerts have always been a mainstay of his success, and he continues to pack them in not only in the United States, but also in Europe, New Zealand, Africa, and the Far East.

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Entertainment Briefs

NIA LONG IN MURDER INC?
Actress teams with *Murder Inc.* for directorial debut.



Speaking of Nia, the familiar Nia Long is teaming with Ashanti to co-star in and direct Ashanti's new video.

Long plays a lovesick woman who wakes in the night to confront the man of her dreams. She shares directing duties with *Murder Inc.* head Irv Gotti.

Oh, Ashanti is in the video, too. In addition, the award-winning singer is getting ready to head out on an global

tour before starting work on her next project.

"We're gonna be going back into the lab, probably at the end of the year or top of next year," she told MTV.



ON THE WHITNEY WAGON: Label staff adores her new album.

Whitney Houston's new album, "Just Whitney," is getting rave reviews ... as biased as they might be. Sales reps from BMG, the parent company of Houston's label Arista, got to take a listen to most of the album at

their conference in Florida last week and, according to Fox, "they all went wild."

The album is scheduled to hit stores November 5. Some reports say Houston is currently in Georgia putting the finishing touches on the LP.

Grudgingly, we have to admit that the more we hear her supposed first single, "Whatchulookinat," the more we're feelin' it.

INGLEWOOD, CAL. POLICE DEPARTMENT CAN DISCIPLINE OFFICERS: Officer to face Halloween court date.

A judge has ruled that the city of Inglewood can discipline two police officers accused in the videotaped beating of a handcuffed teenager.

According to the Associated Press the officers, Bihan Darvish and Antoine Crook could face suspension and reprimand for their role in the arrest. Their attorney has not yet decided whether to appeal the ruling.

Darvish and Crook are accused of falsifying the police report following the incident that had drawn national outrage. Darvish who pleaded innocent to the charges, is currently on administrative leave, while Crook is still on active duty with the department.

A hearing has been scheduled for October 31.

It was fellow officer Jeremy Morse who was taped the officers slamming the teen, Donavon Jackson, on a police car and punching him in the jaw, all while Jackson was handcuffed.

Kam's Kapsules:

For movies opening October 04, 2002

BIG BUDGET FILMS



Jonah (G) Moby heretic. Animated Christian musical comedy about a Jewish vegetable who gets swallowed whole by a heathen whale.



Red Dragon (R for sex, nudity, explicit and grisly violence) Silence of the prequel. Remake of *Manhunter* (1986), the first in the Thomas Harris trilogy which includes *Silence of the Lambs* and *Hannibal*. New version features Anthony Hopkins as man-eating Hannibal Lecter.

Sir. Anthony Hopkins is Hannibal in *Red Dragon*

INDEPENDENT & FOREIGN FILMS

Between Strangers (Unrated) Sentimental saga, starring Sophia Loren, Mira Sorvino and Deborah Unger as women at different stages of life, each undergoing a profound metamorphosis. With Gerard Depardieu along as an understanding gardener.

Bloody Sunday (R for violence and profanity) Documentary-style historical drama about the 1972 British massacre of 13 Irish Catholic peace protesters which kick started decades of violence spearheaded by the IRA.

Heaven (R for one explicit sex scene) Crime drama with Cate Blanchett as a vengeful widow out to find the man responsible for her husband's death who ends up in love with a cop after taking the law into her own hands. Directed by Run Lola Run's Tom Tykwer.

The Man from Elysian Fields (R for cursing and sex content) Romance drama with Andy Garcia as a struggling, married writer who moonlights as a male escort and ends up in bed with the wife of a best-selling author. Co-starring Mick Jagger, James Coburn and Anjelica Huston.

Pipe Dream (Unrated) Romantic comedy about a lowly plumber, dumped by an actress after a one-night stand, who poses as a movie director to date dozens of others. Liar gets surprise of his life, ala *The Producers*, when his fake film turns out to be big hit.

Welcome to Collinwood (R for profanity) George Clooney headlines ensemble-driven farce, set in Cleveland, about a rag-tag gang of hapless losers planning to pull a heist at the local pawn shop. With William H. Macy, Sam Rockwell, Isaiah Washington and Luis Guzman.

The new Miss America: A Harvard-bound brainiac with a melting pot background

by Kam Williams

What is pretty, a prodigy, and part African, English, German, Greek, Welsh, Russian and Native American? If you watched the Miss America beauty pageant last Saturday night, then you know that the answer is Erika Harold. The attractive 22 year-old who hails from Urbana, Illinois has to put a promising legal career on hold for a year to serve out her rhinestone reign as the country's curvy sweetheart.

The crowned queen was supposed to start law school at Harvard this fall, but who knows whether she'll ever end up an attorney now that she's successfully landed the coveted title? After all, the allure of show biz has a way of rearranging a person's priorities. Harold, a June graduate of the University of Illinois with a Phi Beta Kappa key, is a child prodigy turned pinup. So, obviously, she has a good head on her shoulders to go with the winning face and figure.

Erika exhibited considerable skill in the talent competition, delivering a wine glass-shattering aria from *Carmen*. But she didn't fare nearly as well in the newly added trivia portion of the competition, answering only 10 of the 16 questions correctly. But she made up for that with her popularity, as the 46 eliminated contestants' votes counted for a portion of the finalists score. And I suppose she must have fared well in the bathing suit, evening gown and interview segments, too.

The omni-ethnic entrant admits to too diverse a background to settle on identifying merely with one group. As a result, she checks the "Other" box whenever asked her race. After winning, as she walked down the runway, Erika was serenaded by show host Wayne Brady, who bellowed, "There



Erika Harold, Miss America

she is, Miss America..." in observance of the annual tradition credits roll tradition.

Earlier in the evening, Brady was not quite as bashful about his identity, blurring out,

"Yes, I am the host of the Miss America Pageant, and yes, I am black." Wayne, a well-known wise guy (from ABC-TV's *Whose Line Is It Anyway?*), was the first African-American ever to host the ever-popular pageant. The crowning of a winner allowed the pageant to get past the un-wholesome publicity associated with Miss North Carolina who had to step down after some sordid topless photos of her surfaced.

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LEGALS and CLASSIFIEDS

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS (RFQ) FOR ARCHITECTURAL AND ENGINEERING SERVICES

STUDENT RECREATION CENTER Request for Qualifications

Montclair State University seeks an Architectural/Engineering firm to design a Student Recreation Center that will be a prominent building on the campus, achieving creativity and high quality in functionality and aesthetics accompanied by critical attention to cost containment and time efficiency in design and constructibility. The Center will be located on Parking Lots 20 and 21, north of Blanton Hall.

The Student Recreation Center will be 73,000 gross square feet and will contain the following facilities: 3 Multipurpose courts (31,000 sq. ft.), Gym Storage (1,500 sq. ft.), Weight Room (6,000 sq. ft.), Weight Room Storage (400 sq. ft.), Multipurpose Room (2,500 sq. ft.), Multipurpose Room Storage (400 sq. ft.), 2 Racketball Courts (1,600 sq. ft.), Lounge (1,400 sq. ft.), Office Reception (1,200 sq. ft.), Retail (300 sq. ft.), Towel Room (300 sq. ft.), Pool (10,890 sq. ft.), Pool Storage (350 sq. ft.), Pool Office (150 sq. ft.), 2 Locker Rooms (3,200 sq. ft.). The budget for construction of this building is \$12,900,000. The University is requesting that those Architectural/Engineering firms interested in providing design services for the project provide a "Letter of Interest" to the University on or before October 25, 2002. In addition to the "Letter of Interest," a statement of qualifications should also be provided. The University requests that the following items be included in the statement of qualifications:

1. A formal written presentation of qualifications including:
 - Listing and resumes of officers, directors or partners of the firm or group and their role in this project.
 - Listing of any professionals not under full-time direct employ with the firm (including consulting architects and engineers) to be used as consultants on the project, their qualifications and contribution to this project.
 - A description of the current level of the firm's activity and the resulting resources available for this project including references from projects of similar size and scope within a university setting.
 - List of at least (3) clients, including names and phone numbers, who can be contacted as references for similar projects completed within the last (5) years.
 - A complete description of relevant project experience during the last three to five years, including building types and locations.
2. A formal written Proposal and Work Plan including:
 - Demonstration of expertise in the analysis, development and design of buildings similar to the Student Recreation Center.
 - The Firm's understanding of the work to be done.
 - A description of the various approaches which could be used in the project.
 - Definition of a Work Plan to be used and suggested timetable for the completion of each part of the project and the overall project.
 - A proposed organizational chart.
 - Any other information that may be appropriate.
3. All firms must submit six (6) bound copies of the above data in the order listed above. Applications which do not comply with the above instructions may be disqualified. Application materials will not be returned.

EVALUATION

Montclair State University will evaluate submittals based on the following criteria:

- Past experience with projects of similar nature and scope.
- Range and breadth of experience of the firm and proposed staff members of the design or study team. Size of the firm, including professional personnel by discipline and participation by principals of the firm.
- Organization for project management. In house services and services to be performed by separate or associated consultants.
- Consistency of performance on past projects.
- Innovation in design.
- Response to user program requirements and environmental factors.
- Response to mechanical, structural and electrical requirements of projects.
- Record of completion of projects within budget and on schedule.
- Evidence of appropriate balance of design creativity, engineering of building systems, program fulfillment and budget control.
- Statement of design philosophy and approach to the project.

After review of materials received from the responding firms, it is the intent of the University to short list up to five (5) firms from which oral presentations will be requested. From these firms, a finalist will be selected and final terms and conditions for the design contract negotiated.

SUBMITTALS

All responses to this RFQ should be clearly marked, "RFQ: Student Recreation Center" and addressed as follows:

RFQ: Student Recreation Center
 Director of Purchasing
 Montclair State University - CO318D
 Upper Montclair, NJ 07043
 Phone: (973) 655-4145

All responses to the RFQ must be received in the Purchasing Department by close of business, 4:30 p.m., October 25, 2002. Responses received after this date will not be considered.

Montclair State University assumes no liability or responsibility for the costs incurred by the firm for any materials, efforts or expenses required in the preparation of this application or in connection with presentations or demonstrations made prior to the execution of a contract.

An Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Institution www.montclair.edu



**MONTCLAIR
 STATE
 UNIVERSITY**

SIDEWALK AND PATIO MASONRY REPAIRS:

The Asbury Park Public Housing Authority invites qualified licensed contractor to submit their proposals for concrete sidewalk and patio repairs at various Housing Authority sites. Interested contractors should call Geoffrey Melvin, Maintenance Supervisor at 372/774-2660 ext. 19 for an appointment to inspect the sites and get details of the scope, and specifications of required repairs. Responses will be accepted through October 18th 2002 at the Asbury Park Public Housing Authority, 1000 1/2 Third Avenue, Asbury Park, NJ 07712.

Harold A. Phipps, M.B.A.
 Executive Director

\$7.35

NEW ROOFING FOR 6 TEN UNIT APARTMENT BUILDINGS:

The Asbury Park Public Housing Authority invites qualified licensed contractors to submit their proposals for new shingle roofing at Lincoln Village located on Memorial Drive, Asbury Park. Interested contractors should call Geoffrey Melvin, Maintenance Supervisor at 372/774-2660 ext. 19 for an appointment to inspect the sites and get details of the scope, and specifications for required repairs. Responses will be accepted through October 18th 2002 at the Asbury Park Public Housing Authority, 1000 1/2 Third Avenue, Asbury Park, NJ 07712.

Harold A. Phipps, M.B.A.
 Executive Director

\$7.35

ENGINEERING SERVICES:

The Asbury Park Public Housing Authority invites qualified licensed Engineering Firms to submit qualifications and proposals for consideration in providing the PHA with engineering services necessary in determining specifications for upgrading existing sprinkler standpipe and related services. Interested contractors should call Geoffrey Melvin, Maintenance Supervisor at 372/774-2660 ext. 19 for an appointment to inspect the site and get details of the scope, and specifications for required standpipe design. Responses will be accepted through October 18th 2002 at the Asbury Park Public Housing Authority, 1000 1/2 Third Avenue, Asbury Park, NJ 07712.

Harold A. Phipps, M.B.A.
 Executive Director

\$8.57

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT ON OCT. 8, 2002 A PUBLIC AUCTION TO SATISFY A LANDLORDS LIEN WILL BE HELD AT 11:00 A.M.

BUDGET SELF STORAGE
 414 RAYMOND BLVD.
 NEWARK, NJ 07105
 (973) 344-5500

ALL SALES ARE FINAL CASH AS IS. OPERATOR RESERVES THE RIGHT TO BID AND SET BIDS.

STB7: MARIE BARTHELEMY: Mattress, Furnishing; STB9: DARRELL ROBINSON: Boxes, Furnishings; STB11: RAMONA HARRIS: Bags, Toys; STF10: LASHONDA OBERY: Mattresses, Boxes; STH2: HENRI BAPTISTE: Boxes, Housewares; 1C6: ROBERTO RAMOS: LR Set, Refrigerator, Housewares; 1C9: GLORIA ANDREWS: Boxes, Bags; 1F5: MAUREEN D. BOYER: LR Set, Washer; 1M11: DANETTA SWAN: Clothes, Toys; 1AA3: JOSEPH SEARCY: Refrigerator, Boxes; 1AA9: CHERYL HARGROVE: Misc; 1DD4: NATIONWIDE TRUCKING: Office Furniture; 1EE4: DEBORAH BALLARD: Mattress, LR Set; 3A5: ROSIE HARBIN: Furn, Appl; 3A11: IRIS ARROYO-MARTINEZ: Books, Filing Cabinets; 3C5: PINTO TRADING CO: Sofabed, Furniture; 3C31: FELIX CORONADO: Boxes; 3C32: MONIQUE MCCRAY: Furniture, A.C. Unit; 3C46: PATRICIA ALVAREZ: Bags, Furniture; 4A9: DENNIS CARAMBOT JR: Tank, Pictures; 4A14: KIMBERLY SCHENCK: Mattresses, Boxes; 4A15: GEORGE SWINTON: Furniture, Rugs; 4E3: STEFEN TILLERY: Mattresses, Boxes; 4E5: DAVINA LANE: Misc; 4E9: GWENDOLYN SPARROW: TV, Furniture; 4E11: JOANN SOMERVILLE: Furniture

CLASSIFIEDS

MATERIALS CONTROL ADMINISTRATOR

The Morristown Housing Authority is seeking a Materials Control Administrator. Responsible for planning, directing, and coordinating centralized purchasing, maintenance sub-contracting, and inventory control programs. The Morristown Housing is an equal opportunity employer. Employment applicants and a job description will be available between the weekday hours of 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at 31 Early St., Morristown, NJ. No phone calls please.

MAINTENANCE MECHANIC

The Housing Authority of the Borough of Princeton (HABOP) has an immediate opening for an experienced maintenance mechanic. Must have knowledge of all facets of property maintenance, including carpentry, plumbing, electrical, grounds keeping and HVAC. Salary commensurate with experience.

Fax or Mail resume: HABOP, 50 Clay Street, Princeton, New Jersey, 08542. Fax: (609) 924-1663. All resumes must be received by October 18, 2002.

Apartments for Rent Newark, NJ

2 - 2 Bedroom Apts. - \$1,200 / \$1,500

2 - 3 Bedroom Apts. - \$1,800

Near Rutgers campus. For more information, call 973-642-4400 ext. 230.

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Calendar

Community

The Barron Arts Center in Woodbridge seeks volunteers to help with light office duties and greeting visitors. For more info call 732-634-0413 weekdays between 9:00a.m. & 4:00 p.m.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 3

Montclair — Community blood drive visits the Masonic Montclair Lodge, 23 South Fullerton Ave from 4:30p.m. — 8:00p.m.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 9

Newark — Essex County Board of Chosen Freeholders will host its Annual Columbus Day Celebration at the Hall of Records, 465 Dr. MLK, Jr. Blvd at 4:30 p.m. in Room 506. For more info call 973-621-4486.

Morris — Morris County Park Commission and NJ United for Higher School Standards are co-hosting a free day of fun and learning for the entire family from noon — 4:00 p.m. at the Frelinghuysen Arboretum on 53 East Hanover Ave. For more info call 888-694-9900.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 11

East Orange — Community blood drive visits New Hope Baptists Church, 144 Norman St. from 4:00 p.m. — 8:00 p.m.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 12

Middletown — Monmouth County Park System's 2002 African-American History celebration begins with keynote speaker, Rev. Calvin O. Butts, III, at an opening reception, 3:00 p.m. at Tatum Park Activity Center, Red Hill Rd. For more info call 732-460-1167.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 14

Newark — Community blood drive needs donors visits Seton Hall Law school from 10:30 a.m. — 4:00 p.m.

Business

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 3

New Brunswick — How to Succeed in Winning Corporate and Government Contracts, a workshop for small business and minority and women owned businesses will be held from 8:30 a.m. — 1:00 p.m. at Rutgers University's Labor Education Center. For more info call 609-633-0981.

MONDAYS, OCTOBER 7, 14, 21, & 28

Newark — Ron Harris, Founder & CEO of Harris Capital Partners and Metropolitan Baptist Church will sponsor a wealth-building seminar at The Metropolitan Baptist Church Finance Ministry. Sessions are free. For more info call 973-642-2267.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10

Iselin — Brownfields Marketplace: A Conference and Showcase for NJ Properties invites developers, bankers, investors, local officials, etc looking for finance and properties to develop to this event from 8:00 a.m. — 4:00 p.m. at Sheraton at Woodbridge Place. For more info call 609-695-3481.

Newark — Greater Newark Business Development Consortium will host a workshop giving entrepreneurs information and techniques of how to develop a profitable business idea at the RBP Seminar Conference Ctr. from 8:30 a.m. — 11:30 a.m. For more info call 973-242-5560.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 12

Jersey City — Pushin Management Group, LLC will host a lecture series on basic training for small business at 1841 Kennedy Blvd., 2nd Fl. of the Greenville Branch Library. For more info call 201-332-4618.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 16

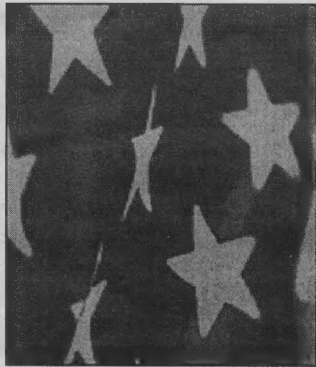
Newark — Concord Communications presents a seminar titled "Manage Your Business by Managing Your Applications, at the Newark Airport Marriott. For info call 973-623-0006.

Newark — Sheila Gibbons, former USA Today & Gannett journalist will speak about women and the media at Rutgers University at 1:00 p.m. in the Roberson Campus Ctr. room 227. For more info call 973-353-5262.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 17

Newark — Greater Newark Business Development Consortium will host a seminar on developing a business plan at the National Newark Building, 744 Broad St, 26th Fl. from 8:30a.m. — 11:30a.m. For more info please call 973-242-5560.

Bridgewater — Fleet Bank along with Somerset County Chamber of Commerce will sponsor a seminar for small businesses from 7:45 a.m. — 9:15 a.m. at Arbor Glen of Bridgewater Conference Center. For more info please call 908-725-1552.



Heartbeat

WEDNESDAYS, OCTOBER 2, 9, 16, 30

Newark — The WIC Pediatric Van will provide health services at the Ironbound Community Ctr., 93 Fleming Ave. from 10:00 a.m. — 3:00 p.m. Immunizations are available on Tuesdays and Thursdays only. For more info call 973-424-4174.

THURSDAYS, OCTOBER 3, 10, 17, 31

Newark — The WIC Pediatric Van will provide health services at the Ironbound Community Ctr., 432 Lafayette from 10:00 a.m. — 3:00 p.m. Immunizations are available on Tuesdays and Thursdays only. Call 973-424-4174 for info.

Clifton — Clara Maass Auxiliary will host a Fashion Show at the Valley Regency at 6:30 p.m. For more info call 973-50-2150.

THURSDAYS, OCTOBER 3, 10, 17

New Brunswick — Saint Peter's University Hospital Health Center for Women is offering a cessation program called "STOP SMOKING". Sessions will be held from 6:00 p.m. — 8:00 p.m. For more info call 732-937-6003.

FRIDAYS, OCTOBER 4, 11, 18, 25

Newark — The WIC Pediatric Van will be providing health services at La Casa De Don Pedro, 75 Park Ave., from 10:00 a.m. — 3:00 p.m. For more info call 973-424-4174.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5

Newark — The WIC Pediatric Van will provide health services at Broadway House Health Fair, 298 Broadway from 10:00a.m. — 3:00p.m. For more info please call 973-424-4174.

City News reminds you that your vote counts!!!!!!!!!!
The last day to register to vote in the November General Election is Monday, Oct. 7, 2002.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6

Hackensack — Hackensack University Medical Center will hold The Second Party Under the Bridge Charity Run at 9:00 a.m. For more info call 201-393-7460.

Piscataway — The Lupus Foundation Of America will host a "Walk-Along For Lupus" event at Johnson Park at 9:00 a.m. For more info call 1-800-322-5816.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 8

Hackensack — Bergen County Departments of Human Services & Public Safety is offering a professional development seminar called "Golden Oldies." For more info call 201-336-7455.

TUESDAYS, OCTOBER 8, 15, 22, 29

Newark — The WIC Pediatric Van will provide health services at AJ Seabra Supermarket, 260 Lafayette from 10:00a.m. — 3:00p.m. Immunizations will be available, bring picture ID, proof of residency, child's immunization records, child's birth certificate and passport. For more info call 973-424-4174.

Belleville — Clara Mass Medical Center will teach Self-Breast examination at 10:00 a.m. For more info call 973-450-3383.

Artz

Newark — African Globe presents Music Lab daily at 7:00 p.m. with special guest DJ's. For more info and to audition call 973-624-1584.

FRI., OCTOBER 4, 11, 18, 25

Newark — Renaissance Jazz café, presents Jazzin' Friday with various Jazz performers. Showtime is from 7:00 — 11:00p.m. Call 973-623-0002.

SAT., OCT. 5

Newark — African Globe Theatre presents "Driving Ms. Daisy" at

Symphony Hall (2nd fl. theatre, Friday and Saturday showtime is at 8:00 p.m. For more info call 973-624-1584.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6

Newark — African Globe Theatre presents "Driving Ms. Daisy" at Symphony Hall (2nd fl. theatre, at 3:00 p.m. For more info call 973-624-1584

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 9

Newark — The Archdiocese of Newark Office of Black Catholic Affairs will host a book signing for Mary A. Ward, author of A Mission for Justice at 7:00p.m. in the Archdiocesan Center Auditorium, 171 Clifton Ave. For more info call 973-497-4340.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10

Newark — African Globe's 10th Anniversary Celebration will be held at The Newark Club, 1 Newark Center, 22nd fl. at 7:00 p.m. For info call 973-624-1584.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 11

Newark — Jette Performance Company brings its dance troupe to Essex County College in a presentation call Crossroads, at 8:00 p.m. in the Mary Burch Theatre. This jazz/modern funk ballet takes the audience in a journey over America's history of dance. For more info please call 973-877-3208.

New Brunswick — Paul Anka performs at the State Theatre at 8:00 p.m. For more info please call 732-246-7469.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 12

Plainfield — The Antique Castle celebrates it's 1st Annual Octoberfest from 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. There will be antiques, collectibles, arts & crafts with over 50 vendors to choose from. For more info call 908-791-9700.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 18

New Brunswick — Country music singer Kenny Rogers will perform at the State Theatre at 8:00 p.m. For more info call 732-246-7469.

Newark — African Globe presents Music Lab daily at 7:00 p.m. with special guest DJ's. For more info and to audition call 973-624-1584.

Send your calendar items, and photos to City News:
By fax, 973-642-5444; By USPS, 111 Mulberry St, TH-C, Newark, NJ 07102-4009; or by email to editorial@citynewsnet-work.com.

Local Briefs

Sarlo, Ahearn fight NYC commuter tax

TRENTON — Assemblymen Paul Sarlo and Matt Ahearn have introduced legislation that would compel the New York State Legislature and Governor to reject a proposed wage tax on New Jersey residents who work in New York City. "The 250,000 New Jersey residents who work in New York City already pay their fair share of taxes to New York," said Sarlo (D-Wood-Ridge), who noted that all New York City workers pay an income tax that is substantially higher than New Jersey's income tax rate. "This proposal is nothing but a short-sighted attempt to address local budget problems by burdening the workers New York City is trying to lure back to the city."

Voters approve most school construction proposals

TRENTON — Voters approved more than 85 percent of the school construction proposals that appeared on last week's ballot, according to the New Jersey School Boards Association. Construction referenda took place in 27 school districts. Included were school projects in Millburn Township; North Caldwell; and Secaucus.

NJCU gets \$172K grant

JERSEY CITY — New Jersey City University has received a \$172-thousand Title VI grant to address what the school calls "the serious local and national need for an international approach to teacher education. The two year federal award will provide funding for "Reading Across Borders: Internationalizing Students in K-12 Urban Teacher Education Program.

Morristown gets science academy

MORRISTOWN — Governor James E. McGreevey, Pfizer chairman and CEO Hank McKinnell, and Education Commissioner William L. Librera launched the Pfizer Medical Science Career Academy last week. Pfizer invested \$500-thousand in the project as part of the Governor's education initiative to create career academies throughout the State to help train youth with the skills to productively participate in the 21st century economy.

Newark imposes municipal hiring freeze

Mayor Sharpe James cites Sept 11, 2001, increased school requests, and need to relieve city tax payers

NEWARK — With Newark facing an \$83 million budget shortfall this year, the City administration took steps recently to reverse the red ink by declaring a freeze on municipal hiring and promotions until further notice.

"We are facing grave fiscal responsibilities brought on by the tragic events of September 11 and the national and global economy," James said. "We also have seen a request from the Newark School System for an additional \$15 million over

the \$80 million we already give it. Our city is also facing a property tax revaluation, and we must bring some relief to our residents. This administration must take decisive steps to address these issues."

According to Office of Management and Budget Director Danny Hill, the salary freeze will save the Newark \$6.6 million this year, without impacting municipal service delivery. Additional money will be saved through attrition.

Under the personnel freeze,

there will be no hirings or promotions until further notice. In addition, there will not be any salary increases for current employees. All department directors were advised of this action through a memorandum issued earlier by Richard Monteilh, the city's Business Administrator.

"The only exceptions to the directive would be if someone was needed to insure the essential delivery of municipal services," said Gregory Franklin, the Department of Personnel

Labor Relations and Compensation Officer. "In that situation, a director would have to give a detailed written justification for the exception, and the business administrator would have to approve the memorandum personally."

Such hiring exceptions would be handled on a case-by-case basis, Franklin said.

The freeze, however, does not affect raises granted in collective bargaining agreements between the city and municipal workers' unions.



The Bronx, Oct. 2002

"BOY, AM I GLAD MY CHECKING IS STILL FREE."

"We New Yorkers don't mind helping people who are lost in the city. But sometimes it's us New Yorkers who are heading in the wrong direction. Like, the way some folks are paying fees for talking to their bank tellers. One day, I looked at the fees on my bank statement and I told myself, 'Mariah, your mama didn't raise any fools. You can't keep putting up with this.' Honey, the next day I switched to Washington Mutual. They have this *Free Checking* account that really is free. I mean, I get free 24 hour customer service, free standard online banking and

I'm not charged for talking to tellers. My canceled checks are returned free of charge and I don't have to pay a fee for every check I write. There are no monthly fees whatever my balance is and no direct deposit requirements. I even get a Washington Mutual Visa® Check Card. The best part is, this bank knows what it's doing. I guess they should, they're part of a family of companies that has been around since 1889. Well, I've got to go. This is the stop where I get off. Which reminds me, maybe it's time you told your bank where to get off too."



Washington Mutual

MORE HUMAN INTEREST.

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